

Tuesday, August 19, 2025 research@bracepl.com

Following is a summary of important business news published in the leading daily newspapers of Bangladesh. For the complete news, please follow the online link given below each news. Please note that the news summary doesn't reflect the opinion of BRAC EPL Stock Brokerage Limited.

#### Macro:

#### FA leads investment-promotion mission to Japan soon

A high-profile government delegation led by Finance Advisor Dr Saleuddin Ahmed visits Japan from September 1 to explore new Japanese investment in multimodal networks and tourism under a latest development drive. However, official sources say the trip has been organised to resolve the problems created in some JICA-funded projects, including metro rail and the third terminal of Dhaka airport.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/fa-leads-investment-promotion-mission-to-japan-soon-1755539776

#### BIDA rolls out initiative to draw a stream of investments

As a unique move, the country's apex investment promotion agency Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) recently introduced a dedicated team of relationship managers comprising private sector professionals to facilitate an investor's journey from seeking information to establishing an industry.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/trade-market/bida-rolls-out-initiative-to-draw-a-stream-of-investments-1755538455

## ADP spending by 12 ministries, divisions was zero in July

Bangladesh's development spending hit a seven-year low in the first month of the current fiscal year, with a dozen agencies not spending even one taka, raising fresh concerns about the pace of economic recovery. According to the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division (IMED), ministries and divisions spent only BDT 16.44 Bn from the Annual Development Programme (ADP) in July. That amounts to just 0.69% of the BDT 2.39 Tn budgeted for the current fiscal year 2025-26 (FY26).

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/adp-spending-12-ministries-divisions-was-zero-july-3965676

## BDT 330 Bn bridges to link Bhola and Chandpur with mainland by 2033

• Bangladesh is seeking BDT 334.23 Bn (USD 3.1 Bn) in funding from Korea and Japan for two monumental bridge projects that will significantly enhance regional connectivity and boost the economy. The projects, once funded, are expected to be completed by 2033.

https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/infrastructure/tk33000cr-bridges-link-bhola-and-chandpur-mainland-2033-1215296

#### ADP implementation in July only 0.69%

• In the first month of the fiscal year, the government spent only BDT 16.45 Bn from the Annual Development Programme (ADP), which is just 0.69% of the total ADP allocation. Even in the previous fiscal year, when the country was paralysed by mass uprising, more money was spent.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/adp-implementation-july-only-069-1215051

#### Sector & Industries:

#### RMG | Narrow product range risks RMG sector's sustainability

Bangladesh long banks on few items for apparel-export earnings, risking the sector's sustainability, although diversification with high-value products suiting growing global- market trends holds great potential, trade experts say.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/narrow-product-range-risks-rmg-sectors-sustainability-1755539723



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#### FUEL & POWER | Govt sweetening terms to lure IOCs after 2024 flop

• The government has moved to launch an offshore bid round again soon, sweetening further the terms to lure international oil companies (IOCs) following last year's failure. State-run Petrobangla is working on finalising the draft of the model production sharing contract (MPSC), incorporating some attractive offers with last year's PSC terms, its Director for PSC Md Soyeb told The Financial Express Sunday.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/first-page/govt-sweetening-terms-to-lure-iocs-after-2024-flop-1755539863

#### FUEL & POWER | Rooftop solar target faces doubts

• A leading energy think-tank has raised doubts over whether Bangladesh can rapidly scale up rooftop solar capacity to 3,000 megawatts (MW) by December this year, citing limited institutional capacity and financing challenges. The Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) also flagged regulatory bottlenecks and implementation delays that could undermine progress, potentially requiring an extension of the ambitious deadline.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/rooftop-solar-target-faces-doubts-1755540211

## BANKS | Three more troubled banks to come under AQR this week

• Three more commercial banks, which were plagued by irregularities and scams during the Awami League government's tenure, are set to come under an asset quality review (AQR) by an international audit firm this week. The banks that will face AQR, generally known as forensic audit, are AB Bank, IFIC Bank and National Bank, officials said.

https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/three-more-troubled-banks-to-come-under-agr-this-week-1755540322

#### BANKS | Call money borrowing jumps 31.6% in July

■ The country's banking sector relied more heavily on short-term borrowing in July 2025, with call money transactions climbing 31.6% month-on-month, according to the Bangladesh Bank's Money Market Dynamics report. Overnight borrowing continued to dominate, making up 84.9% of transactions, while short-notice lending accounted for 13.12% and term call money just 2.01%, as per the monthly publication published by the central bank's Monetary Policy Department.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/banking/call-money-borrowing-jumps-316-july-1215216

## AVIATION | Biman reports record BDT 9.37 Bn profit in FY25

• Biman Bangladesh Airlines today announced an unaudited profit of BDT 9.37 Bn for the fiscal year 2024-25, marking the highest profit in its 55-year history. The national flag carrier attributed the growth to efficient resource management, strategic decision-making, and continuous improvements in customer service.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/aviation/biman-reports-record-tk937cr-profit-fy25-1214916

#### Stocks:

#### DHAKABANK | Dhaka Bank gives AKM Shahnawaz current charge after MD's resignation

• AKM Shahnawaj has assumed the current charge of the office of the managing director of Dhaka Bank, effective from August 17, according to a disclosure by the private commercial lender on the Dhaka Stock Exchange website. The development comes after Sheikh Mohammad Maroof, the immediate past managing director of Dhaka Bank, resigned, citing personal reasons. He submitted his resignation letter to the chairman of the bank's board of directors last week.

https://www.thedailystar.net/business/news/dhaka-bank-gives-akm-shahnawaz-current-charge-after-mds-resignation-3965211



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## **SAFKOSPINN** | Safko Spinning extends factory closure for third time

Safko Spinning Mills has decided to extend the closure of its factory for a third time, according to a disclosure by the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). The company first suspended production on 12 February this year, citing efforts to reduce losses, with an initial plan to resume operations by the end of March.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/safko-spinning-extends-factory-closure-third-time-1215211

## TILIL | Trust Islami Life to distribute entire 2024 profit as dividend

• Trust Islami Life Insurance, a publicly listed insurer, will distribute its entire profit of BDT 8 Mn for 2024 as dividend among its general shareholders. The sponsor-directors, who hold a substantial 53.38% stake in the insurance company, will not take any dividend for the year, according to a disclosure published on the stock exchange's website.

https://www.tbsnews.net/economy/stocks/trust-islami-life-distribute-entire-2024-profit-dividend-1215161





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## Stock and Commodities\*

Index Name	Close Value	Value Change YTD	% Change YTD
Crude Oil (WTI)*	USD 63.04	(USD 8.39)	-11.75%
Crude Oil (Brent)*	USD 66.23	(USD 8.16)	-10.97%
Gold Spot*	USD 3,339.16	USD 730.68	28.01%
DSEX	5,419.91	203.47	3.90%
S&P 500	6,449.15	542.21	9.18%
FTSE 100	9,157.74	1,036.73	12.77%
BSE SENSEX	81,273.75	3,073.82	3.93%
KSE-100	148,196.42	32,937.42	28.58%
CSEALL	20,470.52	4,525.91	28.39%

# **Exchange Rates**

1 US Dollar = 121.47 BDT

1 GBP = 163.97 BDT

1 Euro = 141.55 BDT

1 INR = 1.39 BDT



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